September 24, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Proposed amendments modifying current time guidelines for processing cases and the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act on agenda for Supreme Court's September 25 public administrative hearing

Press release

Detroit Free Press: Rhodes rules accident victim can't be exempt from automatic stay involving lawsuits

"Judge Steven Rhodes today denied a request by a car accident victim who wanted his case against the city to move forward despite an automatic stay that affects lawsuits while the city of Detroit is under Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection.... [Michael] Beydoun filed a motion Aug. 8 seeking relief from the stay for his judgment. He won a \$2-million award in his lawsuit that the city appealed. The matter is pending before the Michigan Supreme Court."

Full story

Bridge Magazine: Phil Power: Secret money in judicial campaigns is a scandal

"How would you feel if you had a case in court — and suddenly realized that the judge's campaign for office had been generously and secretly backed by the party opposing your lawsuit?... In Michigan that can actually happen. It is entirely possible for donors to make big contributions to judicial campaigns in secret."

Full story

Also see:

MLive.com: Phil Power: Secret money in judicial campaigns is a scandal *Full story*

Detroit Legal News: Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award

"Nominations are open for the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award, jointly sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Department of Human Services, to honor exceptional service to Michigan's children.... The deadline is September 27."

Full story

Macomb County Legal News: Child protection toolkit available

"Appropriate placements for children in abuse and neglect cases — either reuniting child and family or finding another permanent home — is the goal of a new online toolkit aimed at judges and lawyers who handle child protection cases."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Conservative group wants right-to-work for lawyers

"A conservative group that supports Michigan's right-to-work law said Saturday it will push legislation to let lawyers opt out of paying mandatory dues to the State Bar of Michigan. All attorneys licensed to practice law must be members of the bar and pay annual dues, leading the Michigan Freedom Fund to liken it to a union."

Full story

The Oakland Press: Francile Anderson remembered as 'cheerleader' for Pontiac

"Francile Anderson, known for decades as the 'cheerleader' for Pontiac school district and the City of Pontiac, and for her lifelong work for education, died Sunday at the age of 86. Mrs. Anderson, of Waterford Township, and her deceased husband, Chief Oakland County Circuit Judge Robert Anderson, are survived by four children, Sally Quick, Sue Anderson, Robert Anderson Jr., and Russell Anderson, all of Waterford Township, and all graduates of Pontiac schools."

Full story

Also see:

SBM Blog: In Memoriam: Francile Anderson

Full story

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Warren Judge John Chmura's birthday bash comes at high cost to taxpayers

"For Warren taxpayers, Judge John Chmura's birthday party may prove to be the most expensive in the city's history. On November 29th of last year, about 200 guests gathered at the Century Club in Sterling Heights to celebrate the chief judge's 50th birthday. His staff organized the surprise which included lawyers, family and friends."

Full story